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August 9, 2007

TO:

Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

FROM: Douglas P. Mueller

OUR REF: 10873.1783USWO

TELEPHONE: (612) 455.3800

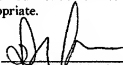
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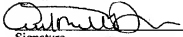
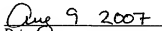
Title of Document: **Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement,  
Written Opinion of the International Searching Authority**Applicant: KAWARABATA et al.  
Serial No.: 10/550,070  
App. Filed: September 21, 2005  
Group Art No.: 1723  
Conf. No.: 2143

Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-3478. Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for a sufficient number of months to enter these papers, if appropriate.

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Reg. No. 30,300

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: KAWARABATA et al. Conf. No.: 2143  
Serial No.: 10/550,070 Group Art Unit: 1723  
Filed: September 21, 2005 Docket: 10873.1783USWO  
Title: BLOOD FILTER DEVICE AND METHOD OF PRODUCING THE  
SAME

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.6(d): I hereby certify that this paper is being transmitted by facsimile to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on August 9, 2007.

By 

Name: Antonette Peters

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Commissioner:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner. Copies of any foreign patent documents or "Other Documents" are enclosed.

Please note that US 5,651,765 and US 5,782,791 corresponding to WO 96/33770, which is identified in the European Search Report, have already been submitted to the USPTO as prior art and therefore WO 96/33770 is not cited herein.

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.97, this statement is being filed (CHECK ONE):

- ☒ (1) within three (3) months of the Filing Date, before the mailing date of a First Office Action on the merits, or before the mailing date of a First Office Action on the merits after the filing of a request for continued examination under 37 C.F.R. §1.114; or
- ☐ (2) after the period defined in (1) but before the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, and
- ☐ the requisite Statement is below, OR
- ☐ the requisite fee of \$180.00 under Rule 1.17(p) is included herein, or
- ☐ (3) after the mailing date of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance but on or before the payment of the Issue Fee, AND the requisite Statement is below AND the requisite fee of \$180.00 under Rule 1.17(p) is included herein.

**STATEMENT**

Applicants hereby state that:

- ☐ Each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application or by the USPTO in a related application not more than three months prior to the filing date of the Information Disclosure Statement

- ☐ If this box is checked, Applicant provides the following:

**Certification Under 37 C.F.R. §1.704(d)**

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.704(d), the undersigned hereby certifies that each item listed on the enclosed Form 1449 was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart application, and that this communication was not received by any individual designated in 37 C.F.R. §1.56(c) more than thirty (30) days prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

- ☐ The Examiner is hereby advised of the following co-pending U.S. applications. A copy of each U.S. patent application publication (if published) or application (if not published) is enclosed.

Application No.

Filing Date

Group

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

**FEE AUTHORIZATION**

Should any fee associated with the submission of this paper not be attached hereto as a check, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the missing fee to our Deposit Account, No. 50-3478. Any overpayments should be credited to said Deposit Account.

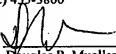
Respectfully submitted,

**52835**

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Dated: August 9, 2007

By:   
Douglas P. Mueller  
Reg. No. 30,300

DPM:acp

Sheet 1 of 1

FORM 1449* SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  IN AN APPLICATION (Use several sheets if necessary)	Docket Number: 10873.1783USWO	Application Number: 10/550,070
	Applicant: KAWARABATA et al.	
	Filing Date: September 21, 2005	Group Art Unit: 1723

[illegible]

Customer Number

EXAMINER	/Benjamin Kurtz/	DATE CONSIDERED	07/15/2008
EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant.			

Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE